





**CANADIAN**

**ART**

**LIBRARIES**

newsletter

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## EDITORIAL

Since this is my first issue of the CARLIS Newsletter as editor, I am experimenting a bit with content. I hope that you find the material interesting and I would welcome your comments.

Since I expect to publish a second issue in late February 1984, the deadline for receipt of material should be February 10th at the latest. Last year only one issue was published, volume 7, no. 1, November 1982.

I believe that it is essential to have input from as many places in Canada as possible. In this way we can be kept aware of changes and developments in our own particular fields of interest. Therefore, if you know of anything news worthy, please do not hesitate to send it along.

For those on our mailing list who may not wish to receive the CARLIS Newsletter would you please fill in the form on the inside back cover of this issue and return it to me. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Melva J. Dwyer, Editor  
CARLIS Newsletter  
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CARLIS  
PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT  
Winnipeg, June 18, 1983

Kathy Perry stated that there had been no meetings of the executive of CARLIS during the year.

Only sufficient material was received by the editor of the CARLIS Newsletter to have one issue published in November 1982. A new editor was to be sought. The one issue cost \$133.05 to produce, the budget for 1983/84 assigned by CASLIS may approximate \$360.00 which would probably support two issues of the Newsletter.

The nominations committee had been unable to field a full slate of candidates to fill the vacant positions on the executive which means that CARLIS has no continuing executive members in key positions. Jan Rosenden, University of Calgary was acclaimed as a member of the executive for 1983/84.

The IFLA Montreal meeting on August 24, 1982 was sponsored by CASLIS through the Special Projects Fund at the request of CARLIS. At the IFLA meeting Mary Williamson, York University; Loren Singer, Concordia; and Karen MacKenzie, Art Gallery of Ontario presented papers on various aspects of Canadian art librarianship.

CLA will be meeting in Toronto in 1984. If a CARLIS meeting is to be arranged a local liaison person will have to be appointed.

ARLIS/NA meets in Cleveland this year with the College Art Association meeting in Toronto.

M. Kathleen Perry  
Chairperson  
CARLIS

MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS  
Winnipeg, June 18

Morning - Programme

Brian Foss reported on Art and Architecture in Canada: a bibliography.

Ken Chamberlain described his project, a Bibliography of Applied Design and Commercial Art in Canada, and offered copies of the first draft to interested members.

Katherine Perry reported on publications of conferences and organizations helpful to art librarians.



Minutes and Proceedings (continued)

Afternoon - Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the June 1982 meeting were taken as read in the CARLIS Newsletter, November 1982.

The nomination committee reported. Jan Roseneder has been acclaimed director.

There was a discussion of nominations and the number of officers required. According to CARLIS by-laws there must be six, a large number for so small a group.

Names were suggested for possible members of a nominating committee and Katherine Perry will approach them.

Possible subject for next year's programme, such as the organization of ephemera, and Canadian design and commercial art, and possible local organizers were discussed.

The treasurer's report was read. Finances were good because the second newsletter was not published.

The newsletter was discussed. The editor is to be appointed by the executive committee. Melva Dwyer expressed willingness to edit it from UBC.

It was decided to send a form letter asking members if they wanted to receive the newsletter, and also offering non-members a subscription at \$6.00 per year.

For this year the form letter and the offer could be put in the same mailing as the ballot for the forthcoming election. After this year the form letter could be sent with the first issue of the newsletter.

The IFLA papers, CIHA papers, and L. Singer's report on ARLIS/NA, 1983 are available from Katherine Perry, Slide Library, Concordia University.

CARLIS archives are to be deposited in the National Gallery Archives.

Brian Foss was voted an honorarium of \$75.00, moved by Helen Rodney seconded by Kathy Zimon.

Ken Chamberlain moved a vote of thanks to David Rozniatowski for the local arrangements.

Adjournment was moved by K. Chamberlain and seconded by Melva Dwyer.

Above minutes recorded by Jacqueline Hunter,  
for Secretary Larry Pfaff.

IFLA 1983, Munich

Art Libraries Section  
Special Libraries Division

The Art Libraries Section of IFLA was very busy this year at Munich, since meetings began on Thursday, August 18th and continued until Friday, August 26th. Six Canadian librarians attended, two of whom, Mary Williamson, York University and Melva Dwyer, University of B.C. had been elected to the Standing Committee for a two year term. The total attendance for the sessions was approximately 40 with the largest group from the United Kingdom. Other countries represented were the United States, France, Germany, Switzerland, Holland, Sweden, New Zealand and Australia.

The first two days of meetings were prior to the general conference to allow the section to have a day for visits to art libraries and a full day for a seminar on Information Technology and Art Libraries: Image Collection.

On Thursday, August 18th Dr. Thomas Lersch, librarian at the Bibliothek des Zentralinstituts für Kunstgeschichte opened the session with a paper: Art Libraries in the Federal Republic of Germany. We then visited three of the major art libraries in Munich. The Bibliothek des Bayerischen Nationalmuseum was the first to be visited where Miss Edith Chorherr, the librarian described the collection and the history of the library. She also showed us some of the most noteworthy items in her collection.

In the afternoon, we visited the Teilbibliothek Architektur with Plansammlung of the Universitätsbibliothek TU München. Dr. Winfried Nerdinger showed us an extensive collection of architectural drawings which is particularly rich in the classical period of Bavarian architecture. The final library to be seen was that of the Bibliothek des Zentralinstituts für Kunstgeschichte which is the largest Fine Arts library in the German Federation with over 200,00 volumes and 1200 current periodicals. Dr. Lersch, chief librarian described the history and purpose of the library to us. Originally the building was constructed in 1935 as the Nazi headquarters and archives. After the war in 1945, it was used for storing works of art seized by the Nazis and was where art historians worked to identify the works in order to return them to their owners. The institute which belongs to the State of Bavaria was founded in 1947 for the purpose of supporting research in the history of art. It is not open to the general public but most scholars doing legitimate research may gain access.

Following this visit, we were entertained by the Zentralinstitut with Professor Sauerlander acting as host.



The second day of the workshop consisted of the presentation of nine papers (for list see below) on the general theme Information Technology: Organizing Images. The papers were grouped into three sub-sections: The Universal Availability of Images, Image Collection: Media and Method and Image Access. The papers were available in English, French and German.

The following days were occupied by business meetings, discussion of medium term programmes, plans for the 1984 Nairobi conference and 1985: Chicago. A session was also given to on-line data bases for the fine Arts. An interesting slide presentation accompanied the paper by Valerie Richards, New Zealand. She gave us a glimpse of the art in both Australia and New Zealand.

As always with IFLA, Thursday was the day for conference tours. Everyone took advantage of the wealth of selection to visit an area and library of special interest.

Munich with its wealth of art galleries and museums was an ideal location for a meeting of Art Librarians. We were also surrounded by interesting architecture ranging from the baroque to the most modern, all in a state of excellent repair. As usual, we were also well entertained both by receptions and special concerts. Munich 1983 could be described as an excellent conference. The Art Libraries Section accomplished a good deal and the location was superb.

If anyone would like a copy of any of the following papers presented at the meetings, please write to the editor of this Newsletter.

Bradfield, Valerie J. On-line databases for architects and designers.  
Chiaromonte, Paula. The development, management and preservation of art and architectural microform collections.

Dubouloz, Jean-Pierre. Computerisation in Swiss art libraries: state of the art.

Jost, Karl. State of automation in Swiss art libraries.

Lersch, Thomas. Art libraries in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Mihailovic, C. Cecile: a bibliographic data base for design at the Centre Georges Pompidou.

Molholt, Pat. The art and architecture thesaurus project.

Pacey, Philip. "I see all": information technology and the universal availability of images.

Purcell, Patrick and Henry Okun. Information technology & visual images: some trends & developments.

Richards, Valerie. ARLIS/NZ and art libraries in the Antipodes.

Richardson, A. Zelda. Computer applications to slide collections.

Rinehart, Michael. On-line databases in the fine Arts.

Sandstrom, Sven. Universal accessibility of art images and information technology.

Sorkow, Janice. Videodiscs and art documentation.

## PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

Artex has published their second catalogue of Canadian exhibition catalogues on contemporary art from Canadian galleries. This time they have included Inuit and Amerindian art. Most catalogues have annotations with a complete bibliographic description of the publication. No catalogues are listed for the National Gallery of Canada since all NGA publications are now sold through McLelland & Stewart. Gallery addresses plus a title listing is included. The prices quoted are Artex's. The catalogue is available from: Artex, c.p. 434, succursale N, Montreal H2X 3N3. a price of \$2.00 is listed.

Masterworks from the Collection of the National Gallery of Canada ... is the title of one of the catalogues available for the inaugural exhibitions of the reopening of the Vancouver Art Gallery in its new building. All 27 canvasses on loan are reproduced in large size colour. Information about the artists and the paintings is also included. Available from: Vancouver Art Gallery, 750 Hornby Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 2H7. \$25.00.

Vancouver: Art and Artists 1931-1983. Vancouver: The Art Gallery, 1983. \$18.00. This 440 page catalogue is a fitting publication to one of the inaugural exhibitions of the new Vancouver Art Gallery. There are essays on the history and development of the Vancouver art scene and the gallery as well as complete documentation for the exhibition. There are a number of reproductions both in colour and black and white together with a list of the works exhibited. The catalogue ends with biographical information about each artist.

Holm, Bill. The Box of Daylight, Northwest Coast Indian Art. Seattle: Art Museum and University of Washington Press, 1983. US\$17.95 paper; US\$35.00 hard. This handsome catalogue accompanies the current exhibition at the Seattle Art Museum. Every item on display is reproduced in the catalogue in black and white with a selection of the choice items in colour. Several essays by experts in various fields associated with northwest coast art are included.

The following recent publication will be of interest to all libraries collecting materials on Canadian art. Phillips in Print: the Selected writings of Walter J. Phillips on Canadian Nature and Art. Selected and edited by Maria Tippet and Douglas Cole. Winnipeg: Manitoba Record Society, 1983. \$30.00. Available from: Manitoba Record Society, Room 401, Fletcher Argue Building, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MAN. R3T 2N2.

Artists' Books 1983. Tokyo: Gallery Lunami, May 23-28, 1983. This exhibition was organized by the Gallery Lunami, Tokyo and Art Metropole, Toronto. Canada Council and the Canadian Embassy, Tokyo were sponsors along with Japanese institutions. The 58 page catalogue is in both English and Japanese. It has travelled to 7 galleries in Japan since its opening.



1983 Index of Manitoba Artists and Artisans is a recent publication of the Canadian Artist's Representation Winnipeg. It includes biographical and professional information on over 200 Manitoba artists; also lists organizations, dealer agents, galleries and workshops. Available from: CAR/FAC, 202 - 89 Princess St., Winnipeg, MAN. R3B 2X3. \$4.00 plus postage.

Arts Scarborough has published a 50 page document on Arts Policy. Available from: Arts Scarborough, 739 Ellesmere Road, Scarborough. ON. M1P 2W1.

Globerman, Steven. Cultural Regulations in Canada is a publication from: The Institute for Research on Public Policy, P.O. Box 9300, Station A, Toronto, ON. M5W 2C7.

The National Film Board of Canada has a loose-leaf catalogue available which describes exhibitions available for show in colleges, universities, libraries, museums, galleries etc. across Canada. The catalogue is free of charge to exhibitors but may be obtained by others for a charge of \$15.00, payable to the Receiver General of Canada. Send to: National Film Board of Canada, Still Photography Division, Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, ON K1A 0N1.

A new English language Film Catalogue listing over 2000 films has been published in 1983 by the National Film Board of Canada in Montreal. Reflets d'un Pays lists a selection of French language films produced in the past 5 years. Both catalogues have many films on art and culture. They are available from: National Film Board of Canada, P.O. Box 6100, Montreal, Quebec. H3C 3H5.

The IFLA Round Table of Art Libraries has published 3 preliminary lists of art libraries in countries throughout the world except for North America. The first two list over 800 libraries in Europe which have some art collections, the third includes libraries in Africa, South America, Asia and Australia. The lists are available for £ 4.00 each or £ 10.00 for all three with postage and packing. Orders may be sent to: Round Table of Art Libraries, The Library, Faculty of Art & Design, Bristol Polytechnic, Clange Road, Bower Ashton, Bristol BS3 2JU, England.

Canada Council Art Bank has published a catalogue of its holdings listing 10,504 works by 1,261 different artists which were purchased between September 1972 and March 1983. There are few reproductions in the catalogue but there is a set of slides available from Art Bank. If interested in either write to: Art Bank, Canada Council, P.O. Box 1047, Ottawa, K1P 5V8.

Two of the most recent publications from the Canadian Conference of the Arts are: Who's Who and Who Does What. These are the 1983/84 editions and are available for \$10.00 each including postage. They are most useful guides to national, federal and provincial departments and agencies responsible for culture and the arts in Canada. The address for CCA is: Canadian Conference of the Arts, 141 Laurier Avenue West, Suite 707, Ottawa, K1P 5J3.

The Western Canadian Fashion Designers Association has published a calendar for 1984 which features a designer member each month. Anyone interested in Canadian fashion design should obtain a copy. Available from: Western Canadian Fashion Designers Association, 1007 - 700 West Pender Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 1L8. \$14.95 plus tax and \$1.00 postage.

Museums by Artists has recently been published by Art Metropole in Toronto. It considers the relationship between artist and museum through the works of artists. Available from: Art Metropole, 217 Richmond Street West, Toronto, ON. M5V 1W2. \$20.00 plus \$2.50 postage.

For anyone who is familiar with the periodical VILE, the following publication is of interest: A Book about VILE, a history of VILE and a coverage of avant-garde art of the 70's. Obtainable through: Banana Publications, P.O. Box 3655, Vancouver, B.C. B6B 3Y8, \$8.00 prepaid.

Exploring Ottawa: an Architectural Guide to the Nation's Capitol is Harold Kalman's latest book. Similar to his book on Vancouver, it includes information and photographs of buildings to be seen on 10 tours for walking, skating, bicycling or driving in our nation's capitol. Published by the University of Toronto Press for \$10.95.

10-5155-20 Art Contemporain is a new contemporary art magazine covering the whole range of the contemporary art scene. In French with a variety of formats, it is available from: c.p. 608, Sherbrooke, Quebec. J1H 5K5. \$11.00.

A new periodical called ISSUE has just appeared in Vancouver to cover the Vancouver visual arts community. "It has been established to fill the void that exists between the mass media and existing national arts publications." Subscriptions for this monthly are available from: ISSUE, 204 - 1120 Denman Street, Vancouver B.C. V6C 2M8. 10 issues, \$12.00 including postage.

SECTION a, Revue d'Architecture has several articles on the National Gallery of Canada in the June/July 1983 issue. An interview with Dr. Jean Boggs is included about the selection of architects and plans for the new National Gallery building.

About Arts and Crafts/l'Art et l'Artisanat published by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, v.5 no.2, 1982 is a complete issue given over to a Bibliography of Contemporary Canadian Inuit Art by Jean Blodgett.

Cosgrove-Smith, Patricia. "Smoky-top: the Art and Times of Willie Seaweed," American Indian Art Magazine 8 no.4: 64-9, Autumn 1983. This article complements the exhibition currently being held in Seattle at the Pacific Science Center on the westcoast Kwakiutl artist Willie Seaweed. A book and exhibition catalogue are also available.

Two articles on Jean-Paul Riopelle appear in Le Collectionneur IV no.6, 1983. "Riopelle, Une Legende a l'Oeuvre" by Guy Robert, pp.18-22 and "Riopelle: sa Carriere, son Marche (1946-1982)" by Nino Gauthier, pp. 23-31.

New Zealand Women Artists is the title of a special issue of Art New Zealand 26: entire issue, 1983.

"The First Fifty Years," by Tony Robertson and "Putting Art in Its Place, from Courthouse to Gallery," by Anne Buchan are the titles of articles on the new Vancouver Art Gallery in their publication Vanquard 12 no.8: 1024,38; 26-37.

IFLA Journal v.9 no.3: 230-5, 1983 has the following article by Philip Facey, chairperson of the Art Libraries Section of IFLA. "Information Technology and the Universal Availability of Images."

For those Fine Arts librarians who have a slide collection, the following article may be of interest. Babineau, Suzanne and Thomas Behrendt, "A Data Base System for Visual Resources Collections: a System Analysis," Visual Resources; an International Journal of Documentation 111 no.1: 50-60, August 1983.

Miller, Susan. Sisters of Menon. London: Gimpel Fils, 1983. \$20.00 or £ 5.50 (30 Davies Street, London W1Y 1LG) This publication is based on an exhibition held in London during March and April of this year. Consists of scripts produced by the artist by the technique known as 'automatic writing' to accompany a traditional text, "Sisters of Menon."



NOTICE FROM MARY WILLIAMSON, YORK UNIVERSITY

Last winter I conducted a budget survey of a selection of Canadian art libraries. The one page questionnaire was sent to universities, art schools and museums/galleries, and in it I requested information about funds available from new and retrospective art materials. In the case of academic institutions, I also asked for numbers of students. The results of the survey were circulated to participants, seventeen in all.

If other libraries would like to participate in the next survey they should let me know. Although book funds are distributed in very different and sometimes mysterious ways, the comparative information can still be useful, particularly for those who need ammunition against underfunding.

Mary Williamson, Fine Arts Bib.  
Scott Library, York University  
Downsview, ON M3J 2R2

In WAG Magazine, September 15, 1983 it was noted that the Gallery has a slide library of more than 20,000 slides, encompassing major areas of art history and culture, including modern, ancient and non-western.

Also noted in the same issue of WAG as above, the Clare Lander Library (Winnipeg Art Gallery) received two generous donations early in 1983. \$2,216.68 presented by the Volunteer Committee & a gift of books from the estate of the late Marjory Sinclair, including many outstanding art volumes.

The province of Alberta has given a special grant of \$150,000 to permit the Glenbow Museum to keep it's library/archives in operation for at least another year. This facility has been threatened with closure as a result of Glenbow's severe financial problems.

The Inuit Collection of the Toronto-Dominion Bank is getting a permanent home in a new tower - the fourth to be built as part of the T-D centre, Toronto. The collection is currently on display on the 5th floor of the T-D tower for any who are visiting in Toronto.

The big news in Vancouver in October was the opening celebrations for the Vancouver Art Gallery in its new home, the old court house. This heritage building has been magnificently remodelled by the architectural firm of Arthur Erickson. Various festivities took place from October 11th - 15th culminating in the official opening by Governor General Ed Schreyer. The main entrance for the gallery faces on Robson Square, a decision which created considerable controversy. Many citizens felt that the former main entrance on Georgia Street should have been retained. However, for security reasons as well as aesthetic, the Robson Square side was finally chosen. A much enlarged book shop is at the entrance to the gallery and there is to be a restaurant facility in the very near future.



## JOHNSON'S INDEX

TO CANADIAN ART AUCTIONS

HOLSTEIN ONTARIO

NOG 2AO 519-334-3574

### CANADA'S FIRST COMPUTERIZED ART AUCTION INDEX

Until now there has existed in Canada no equivalent of Leonard's Index to Art Auctions, the American quarterly compilation of art sold at auction. There has been no easy way to keep up to date with the fluctuating prices of Canadian art, including native and Inuit work, at auction houses across the country.

Johnson's Index to Canadian Art Auctions is being made available by subscription to those who need accurate, up to date information on the Canadian art market: collectors, investors, dealers, public and private galleries, educational institutions, insurance adjusters, appraisers, etc.

The latest in computer technology ensures that Johnson's Index will be a useful tool for those involved in the art field. Each issue will contain a legible, easy to use listing of Canadian art auction results for the previous three months, arranged alphabetically by artist. All listings are taken from catalogues supplied by participating auction houses, such as Waddington's, Fraser's and Sotheby's. Printed in 8 1/2" x 11" format, the Index comes pre-punched to fit in a standard three-ring binder, forming a permanent reference work.

The Index will be more than a simple list, however. Beginning in the fall of this year, each issue will contain articles on the Canadian art and auction scene. Interviews, artist profiles, pertinent government legislation, analysis of price trends - these will all be featured in future issues. Information on all participating auction houses will be listed in each issue, as well as a schedule of upcoming auctions.

The Index is under the editorial direction of Chris Dickman. With a number of years experience as a museum curator, Mr. Dickman is a regular contributor to such publications as Antique Showcase, Ontario Museum Quarterly, Canadian Collector and the Globe and Mail. He has studied art history in Paris, Toronto and Vancouver and is active as guest curator of historical Canadian art exhibits, presently arranging a show of the graphic work of G.A. Reid for the Durham Art Gallery.

The first issue of the Index will be available in early June and contain listings for the January-May period. Subsequent issues will cover the periods of June-September and October-December. Beginning in 1984, the Index will be issued quarterly. Subscription rates are \$22 per year, \$26 for institutions.

#### NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Kathleen Ferry has just announced the names of those members who will serve on the nominations committee for CARLIS. If anyone is interested in standing for office, please get in touch with one of the following: Kathy Zimon, University of Calgary  
Patricia Ekland, University of Victoria  
Daphne Dufresne, Université de Québec, Montréal

It would be really nice if people who are interested in the future of CARLIS would offer to be on the executive. I can assure you, it is not a very onerous job.



## PEOPLE NEWS

Jean Martin, librarian at the Vancouver Art Gallery from 1963, retired in June of this year. During the time she worked at the Gallery, the library increased considerably in size and facilities were greatly improved. Jean was a member of ARLIS/NA and also of CARLIS through an institutional membership. The other Fine Arts librarians in Vancouver will miss Jean very much, since she always worked closely with them and cooperated in many ways. Have a happy retirement Jean.

Murray Waddington formerly of the Fine Art Department, Metro Toronto Public Library and also of the National Gallery Library has been appointed chief cataloguer for the Canadian Centre of Architecture/Centre Canadien d'Architecture, Montreal as of September 15, 1983.

Rhoda Baxter, head of Fine Arts, Vancouver Public Library has been in New York for six weeks from October 2, 1983. She is researching documents and other materials for the proposed Shakespeare Music Catalogue. She has been working in three New York libraries: Verdi, J. Pierpont Morgan and Columbia University.

The Diapothèque of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts/Montreal Musée de Beaux-Arts reopened in September with Dominique Gagnon resuming her former position.

Catherine Cowan who received her M.L.S. from the University of B.C. and a diploma in Art History from the same institution is the new librarian at the Vancouver Art Gallery. She replaced Jean Martin on July 1st. The new library facilities are somewhat more spacious than those in the old building.

Sybille Pantazzi who was head librarian at the Art Gallery of Ontario until her retirement in 1979 died in Toronto on July 23rd after a long illness. During the time that Miss Pantazzi worked at the gallery, she built up an outstanding collection of research material, much of which is unique in Canada.

Evan H. Turner at one time director of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts/Montreal Musée des Beaux-Arts has recently been appointed director of the Cleveland Museum of Art to replace Sherman Lee.

Sir Nikolaus Pevsner, editor of the 46 volume Buildings of England series and author of numerous other works, died in August at the age of 81.

## BOOK REVIEWS

Visions: Contemporary Art in Canada. edited by Robert Bringhurst, Geoffrey James, Russell Keiere and Doris Shadbolt. Vancouver: Douglas & McIntyre, 1983. \$29.95.

Popular television series about understanding the visual arts, such as "Civilization" with Kenneth Clark or "Shock of the New" with Robert Hughes, have indeed whetted our appetite for a similar series on Canadian art. TVOntario, with funding provided by Canadian Pacific, has recently produced just such a series on contemporary Canadian art. It was called Visions and, like the other T.V. series, a book was produced entitled Visions. Although the books that spun off from the other T.V. series were each the view of only one writer, Visions is a collection of essays by 6 well-known authorities on Canadian art. Add to this an editorial board of 3 respected writers, critics and experts, chaired by a distinguished Canadian poet.

Visions presents the history of contemporary Canadian art from 1945 to 1983 in 6 essays as varied and diverse as the writers themselves. It is not a classic history of Canadian art. It does not focus on chronological or regional analysis, or on the lives of the artists. It focuses on the meanings of the art works themselves and on the social milieu that created them. Major artists and major movements are discussed. The mysteries of new media are examined as well as traditional forms of painting and sculpture. Through the visions of each critic, the reader's vision expands.

The book is beautifully illustrated, mostly in colour. It contains a good index and notes followed by a bibliography of suggested reading. The bibliography is perhaps the weakest part of the book. It is quite inadequate for the broad intent of the essays. Whether or not one is fortunate enough to see the T.V. series called "Visions", the book, Visions, is well worth acquiring. It is a handsome production in itself. It is readable for the layman and, for the art historian, it documents various critics' appraisals of the complex contemporary art scene in Canada.

Diana Cooper,  
Fine Arts Reference Librarian  
Fine Arts Division Library  
University of British Columbia



Byers, Mary, and Margaret McBurney. The Governor's road : early buildings and families from Mississauga to London. Toronto ; Buffalo : University of Toronto Press, 1982. 319 p. \$19.95

The Governor's road is the third of the excellent series of books being produced by Mary Byers and Margaret McBurney on the early buildings and families of Ontario. This volume, as the title states, covers the area between Mississauga and London, following what was once derisively called "The Governor's road;" after Lieutenant-Governor John Graves Simcoe. He proposed the route in 1793 "as a military link between Lake Ontario, Lake Erie, Lake St. Clair, and Lake Huron, as a spur to settlement and deterrent to expansionist American interest in Upper Canada." By 1794 the road was cut through from Dundas to the site of London, extensions were made to 'York', and although the "tenure" of the road was not secure until the 1820's, it became the spinal cord which supported the settlement of southern Ontario." "The route this book follows is primarily that of the 1793 road, now highway 99. The section from (Toronto) ... to Dundas was and still is called Dundas Street (highway 5). Beyond Paris and Woodstock the route is called highway 2."

The Governor's road deals with both the buildings and the people. Combining architecture and local history the authors have begun with this series to fill a gap created in these areas by recent publications aimed at the general public. The trend has been either to publish glossy architectural surveys with a provincial or even national scope, or, to produce small local histories with limited appeal outside of their respective communities. This series focuses on the rich architectural heritage that has often been passed over as provincially insignificant in the larger overviews of Ontario buildings. At the same time the book records the local and sociological history of such communities, creating

a format which allows a wider audience than could normally be found for such material. These volumes compile an architectural record within the context of local history, and thereby offer a detailed historical survey of regions of the province which would otherwise go unrecorded.

The text focuses on a selection of largely pre-confederation buildings which have been for the most part unaltered, and are representative of the architecture of each community or section. We are thereby given an historical survey of Erindale, Port Credit, Oakville, Waterdown, Dundas, Ancaster, Brantford, Paris, Woodstock and London, along with some of the surrounding townships. Such information came from sources as various as the communities described. The authors "set out on the trail of the original owners" of each building through the use of "land titles, Assessment rolls, census records, wills, diaries, newspapers, and any other available original documents," such as family records and genealogies. Most of the material was compiled in the Public Archives of Ontario, but the files and local history publications of various historical societies, libraries and museums were extensively used. The oral tradition was not ignored, but wisely, is noted as legend when the information is not based on documented sources. Each chapter was read by "either a professional or a knowledgeable amateur," who consented to read the "chapter which related to his or her particular area of expertise." This volume has an excellent index, and includes a "Selected bibliography" that leaves one hoping that not too much material was selectively removed.

In combination with the architectural survey is a sociological examination of the builders and the surrounding community. The chapter on Woodstock is but one of a type. The authors begin by giving an outline of the founding of the town, while concentrating on the most influential citizens in its early years. men such as Henry Vansittart, Andrew Drew, and Rev. William Bettridge. The family background and



early history is focused on the buildings these men and their survivors built, or were influential in bringing to completion. The text is highlighted by the excellent black and white photographs of Hugh Robertson. The text continues with a survey of important public buildings, and homes associated with other prominent citizens, along with good examples of 'small vernacular houses that were so prevalent in nineteenth century Ontario.' Sprinkled throughout are numerous vignettes that belie the remark often made in small towns that 'nothing interesting ever happened here.' Family rivalries, neighbourhood quarrels, public hangings, and individuals whose lives and architectural legacies have added colour and helped to shape the fabric of the community. The chapter boasts about the buildings and the communities that remain. The book brings the buildings and their history to life.

The research and scholarship that has gone into the production of The Governor's road is excellent. Architectural historians may wish for a more academic treatment of regional architecture, but until such a document is produced, this volume provides a thoroughly researched architectural survey of the region. There are those who would add that the combination of architecture and social history in a format aimed at the general public is not valid as it adds little to the study of Ontario architecture. Nevertheless, all over this province organizations are fighting to preserve historic buildings in the face of an opposition whose main argument is that such structures are useless vestiges of a past that is largely uninteresting and of little significance to a modern community. "Town councils often fail to recognize the advantages, both aesthetic and economic, of preserving their historic buildings." The Governor's road argues in the face of such apathy and neglect that these buildings are historic treasures to be saved as a vital part of a community's past and its future. Such an argument may not be the basis of

an academic discussion of regional architecture, but such material may contribute a great deal towards educating the general public and saving the very buildings themselves. Any library interested in the study and preservation of Ontario architecture would do well to purchase this volume.

Randall Speller  
Library - Art Gallery of Ontario

## CPL UPDATE

The following letter was received from Mary Williamson, York University. If there are any readers of the CARLIS Newsletter who have not seen the questionnaire from Canadian Periodical Index it would certainly be in order to write to request one.

Although the deadline for reply was November 1st, I am sure that consideration will be given to some late returns. If you wish to submit new titles for consideration in Fine arts, Architecture and the Performing Arts you are asked to supply the following information: Title of Periodical; Frequency and Publisher. Your suggestions should be sent to the Editor, Canadian Periodical Index, Canadian Library Association, 151 Sparks Street, Ottawa K1P 5E3

To our library and faculty colleagues:

The editors of the Canadian Periodical Index are conducting one of their intermittent surveys of subscribers to help them determine which Canadian periodicals should be indexed. We believe that too few Canadian art periodicals are presently being indexed (see list enclosed) and urge our colleagues to contribute recommendations for new titles through their libraries. (In the large libraries it is usually the Reference Department which is responsible for coordinating replies).

The full implications of periodical indexing are not always understood. The Canadian Periodical Index is received by most academic, public and school libraries where decisions about which journals to subscribe to are often made on the basis of which titles are more readily accessible to their readers through indexing. Indexing can make the difference between life and death for a periodical. It can make the difference in the ability of a writer being able to reach his intended audience, and in information about Canadian art and artists being accessible to those seeking it.

Only subscribers to the Canadian Periodical Index are eligible to submit recommendations for indexing. We urge you to support Canadian art periodicals, the authors who write for them, and those who read them by participating in your library's response to the survey. A copy of the survey material is enclosed. November 1 is the deadline for completed questionnaires.

Yours truly,

Karen  
per Mr.

Karen McKenzie  
Chief Librarian  
Art Gallery of Ontario

Mary

Mary F. Williamson  
Fine Arts Bibliographer  
York University Libraries





A pleasant pastime. *Century Magazine*

from: The Picture Reference File: Volume 1,  
A Compendium. New York: Hart  
Publishing Co., Inc., 1976. p. 270.

Please note that volume 7 of this newsletter consisted of 1 number only.

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Since the mailing list for the CARLIS Newsletter is quite large. In order to save unnecessary expense, if you do not wish to continue to receive the Newsletter would you please return the form below to:

Miss Melva J. Dwyer  
CARLIS Newsletter  
Fine Arts Division  
Main Library  
1956 Main Mall  
University of B.C.  
Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Y3

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